

EURELECTRIC Releases Power Statistics For 2011

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Output from renewables grows despite economic slowdown and decrease in power consumption

Electricity demand in Europe fell to 3,073 TWh in 2011 - a decline by 1.9% compared to 2010, latest data from the European electricity sector show. The decline in electricity output reflects the continued difficult economic climate in Europe. Nevertheless, 25 GW of renewable capacity (including hydro) were added to the grid in 2011, raising the share of renewable capacity to 34%.

The data are included in the latest EURELECTRIC *Power Statistics report*, published today.

The newly-released report also highlights the sector's expectations for 2020. Most notably, the sector expects that 45% of all power plants will be renewable-based, generating some 31% of Europe's electricity. Low-carbon electricity from nuclear and renewables will account for 56% of all electricity generated.

The expected increase in renewable capacity will imply major changes in the way the electricity system is run. For instance, backing up variable renewables will become increasingly important. A holistic approach to managing Europe's power sector will therefore be urgently needed, including an increasing role for interconnections between power systems, storage, flexible generation and demand-side participation.

The 2012 edition of EURELECTRIC's annual *Power Statistics and Trends report*, representing best engineering estimates, gathers electricity statistics from the EU-27, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey, as well as from Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia and Ukraine. Data cover the structure of the electricity industry, medium and long-term generating prospects, sectoral electricity consumption, electricity balances, fuel consumption in and emissions from the electricity sector, and much more.

The summary report can be downloaded [here](#).